

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CEQ-02 EPA-04 AEC-11 OIC-04

AID-20 CIAE-00 COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-10

IO-14 L-03 NSF-04 NSC-07 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SS-20

SP-03 FEA-02 DRC-01 /144 W

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R 120415Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1225

UNCLAS TOKYO 4823

DEPT PASS TO CEQ AND EPA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OCON, JA

SUBJECT: REVISED SCHEDULE AND AGENDA FOR THIRD US-JAPAN
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

REF: A) STATE 63735 B) STATE 66056

SUMMARY: GOJ GENERALLY APPROVES AGENDA, WITH REARRANGEMENT
OF TOPICS AND ADDITION OF ITEM ON MARINE POLLUTION CONTROL
STRATEGY. GOJ PROPOSES DELETION OF WHALING FROM AGENDA, BUT
WILLING TO DISCUSS THIS TOPIC INFORMALLY. ACTION REQUESTED:
ADVISE ON ACCEPTABILITY OF AGENDA REVISIONS PROPOSED BY GOJ
AND ON REVISED DATES (MAY 16-17) FOR STAFF-LEVEL MEETING,
AND FURNISH BIO DATA ON US DELEGATION MEMBERS AS WELL AS
COMMENTS ON GOJ DRAFT AGREEMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. ON APRIL 10, FONOFF OFFICIALS TOLD EMBOFFS THAT THEY
GENERALLY APPROVED OF AGENDA OF REFTEL (A), AS MODIFIED BY
REFTEL (B). THEY PROPOSED FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS AND
RE-ORDERING OF TOPICS:

A. SECTION TWO WOULD BE REARRANGED, TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

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II. PRESENT AND FUTURE TRENDS IN ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY.

- A. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
- B. ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS RELATING TO ENERGY SOURCES
AND USE
- C. AIR POLLUTION CONTROL STRATEGIES AND AUTOMOBILE
POLLUTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
- D. MARINE POLLUTION CONTROL STRATEGY (NEW ITEM)
- E. REGULATIONS ON PERSISTENT TOXIC CHEMICALS
- F. LAND USE PLANNING
- G. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
POLICY

B. UNDER ITEM THREE B, "POSSIBLE NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION,"
GOJ WOULD LIKE US TO UNDERSTAND THAT THEY WOULD LIKE
TO DISCUSS INSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS, TOO. THIS REFERS
TO STATUS OF TWO PANELS TRANSFERRED FROM UJNR TO
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE, A MOVE TO WHICH MITI APPARENTLY
STILL TAKES EXCEPTION.

C. GOJ WOULD LIKE TO DELETE ITEM FOUR C, "INTERNATIONAL
WHALING COMMISSION." FONOFF OFFICAL EXPLAINED THAT,
WHILE GOJ DOES NOT WANT WHALING AS AN "OFFICIAL ITEM,"
HE COULD SAY "UNOFFICIALLY" THAT, IF US INTRODUCES
TOPIC, IT COULD BE DISCUSSED INFORMALLY. EMBASSY
RECOMMENDS ACCEPTANCE OF THIS FORMULA.

D. UNDER ITEM FOUR B, "UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAM," GOJ WOULD ALSO OKE TO DISCUSS OECD
ACTIVITIES. TO AVOID CONFUSION, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THIS
BE ADDED AS SPECIFIC TOPIC UNDER ITEM FOUR.

2 OFFICIAL ALSO SAID GOJ WOULD LIKE TO ADVANCE
PRELIMINARY STAFF MEETING BY ONE DAY, HOLDING IT ON MAY
16 -, \$ 17, IN ORDER TO HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE
AND SUBMIT REPORT TO MINISTERS' MEETING STARTING MAY 20.

3. OFFICIAL ALSO ASKED FOR MORE BACKGROUND ON MEMBERS
OF US DELEGATION, INCLUDING FIELD OF SPECIALIZATION OF
EACH.

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4. FONOFF AWAITING US COMMENTS ON THEIR DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT.
EDMOND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLLUTION, ENVIRONMENT, MEETING AGENDA, NUCLEAR ENERGY, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TOKYO04823
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740084-1171
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740444/aaaabnpi.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 63735 B) STATE 66056
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2002 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <20 DEC 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REVISED SCHEDULE AND AGENDA FOR THIRD US-JAPAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION
TAGS: SENV, OCON, JA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005